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Forest Service NEWS



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CURRENT SERIALS ACQ./SERIALS BRANCH

FOREST SERVICE DECIDES ON NEW PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TREE NURSERIES

PORTLAND, November 10, 1989--A new pest management policy for controlling weeds, diseases, insects, and other animals at National Forest tree nurseries in Oregon and Washington is described in a final environmental impact statement (FEIS) and record of decision for "Nursery Pest Management" released recently.

"My selection of Alternative E as the final pest management strategy is based on the three major issues brought to us by the public and our employees--human health, environmental quality, and economics," said John Butruille, Regional Forester. "The selected alternative emphasizes the prevention of pest management problems and also reflects my desire to reduce the pesticide use at the nurseries."

The policy covers pest control methods used at the Wind River Nursery near Carson, Washington; the Bend Pine Nursery, Bend, Oregon; the Dorena Tree Improvement Center near Cottage Grove, Oregon; and the J. Herbert Stone Nursery, located near Medford, Oregon.

The new policy calls for an integrated pest management plan using all available methods of control; however, non-chemical methods would be preferred. Nursery managers will use a formal monitoring and evaluation program for determining pest damage levels and treatments. In addition, employee health, soil, and water quality monitoring are included in this proposal. The policy establishes formal decision-making procedures that each of the four nurseries in the Pacific Northwest Region will follow to assess and prescribe pest management treatment.

The FEIS was completed in response to the 1984 court injunction banning the use of herbicides on National Forest lands in Washington and Oregon. In addition to analyzing the effects of herbicides, the FEIS addresses the use of other pesticides used for pest control at nurseries--fungicides, fumigants, and insecticides.

Individuals who are interested in obtaining copies of the FEIS should contact their nearest Forest Service nursery or National Forest headquarters office.

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ADVISORY BOARDS NAMED

PORLAND, November 22--Advisory boards for the 13 National Forests in Oregon and Washington that are home to the Northern Spotted Owl were named today by Pacific Northwest Regional Forester John F. Butruille. The boards are called for by section 318 of the FY 1990 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, a section known as the Northwest Compromise.

"The 91 people who have agreed to volunteer their time over the next 10 months will be essential in helping us meet the challenges of the Northwest Compromise," stated Butruille. "All the board members are well respected individuals with a good working knowledge of the resources of their local Forests. Together they will represent the diverse interests of people concerned about our National Forests on 13 well balanced advisory boards."

Each of the 13 boards is composed of seven members. There is one board for each of the following forests: the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie, Okanogan, Olympic, Gifford Pinchot, and Wenatchee National Forests in Washington; and the Deschutes, Mount Hood, Rogue River, Siskiyou, Siuslaw, Umpqua, Willamette, and Winema National Forests in Oregon.

The role of each board is to help the Forest Service select timber for sale to meet the target in the law, in a manner that best protects owl habitat and significant old growth stands and that is consistent with plans. Regionwide, one-third of the members represent environmentalist concerns and one-third represent timber or business concerns. Board members will be contacted by Forest Supervisors in the next few weeks to schedule their first meeting.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: The complete list of names is available upon request.

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NEW REGIONAL APPEALS REGULATIONS

PORLAND, November 29--In response to Section 318 of the 1990 Appropriations Act for the Department of Interior and Related Agencies, Pacific Northwest Regional Forester John F. Butruille announced recently the implementation of amended timber sale appeals procedures for timber sale decisions made on 13 National Forests in Oregon and Washington.

"This final rule streamlines the old rule without losing sight of our need to make informed environmental decisions. The new rule will help us meet our goals, continue to provide consistent processing of appeals and maintain the public's access to the decision-making process," said Butruille.

The new rule adds a new section that provides for only one level of administrative appeal. In the past, environmental decisions had at least one level of administrative review plus an option for a second-level review of the decision.

The new rule shortens the time to 45 days the Regional Forester has to issue a decision if a stay has been granted. If a stay is granted, anyone wishing to intervene will have 15 days to file a notice of intervention and to provide comments. If a court challenge occurs before an appeal decision is issued, the appeal record will be closed and the appeal dismissed without the decision on the merits.

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CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS
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TENTATIVE TIMBER TARGETS RELEASED

PORLAND, December 15--Tentative fiscal year 89 and 90 timber targets for the National Forests in Oregon and Washington were released today by Pacific Northwest Regional Forester John F. Butruille. The targets represent each forest's two year share of the 7.7 billion board feet of timber called for in section 318 of the 1990 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

"In the middle of a crisis the question is not who should help but who can help," stated Butruille. "For that reason some forests' two year targets are higher than their historical share of the region's total. We will balance these out to the 10 year average called for in forest plans that are already final as we get to the bigger challenge, the long term resolution of the public land issues in the northwest."

The law calls for 5.8 billion board feet of timber to be offered for sale over a two year period on the 13 National Forests that contain spotted owl habitat and 1.9 billion board feet to be offered on the other 6 National Forests in Oregon and Washington. Additionally, it requires proportional distribution of the targets by state but not by forest.

Regionally 3.2 billion board feet has been offered for sale to date, leaving a target of 4.5 billion board feet for the next 9 1/2 months. These forest targets are tentative pending the release of final budget figures and the resolution of Graham-Rudman-Hollings requirements. Generally targets also change during the year due to unforeseen circumstances.

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US FOREST SERVICE PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION
89/90 TIMBER TARGET DISTRIBUTION¹

	FY 89/90 TARGET	VOLUME SOLD FY 89	STRAIGHT PROPORTION ²
<u>Oregon Owl Forests</u>			
DESCHUTES	260	83	242
MT HOOD	490	63	499
ROGUE RIVER	270	63	305
SIUSLAW	635	120	548
SISKIYOU	310	24	351
UMPQUA	640	145	572
WILLAMETTE	1150	234	1137
WINEMA	270	119	371
TOTAL	4025	851	4025
<u>Washington Owl Forests</u>			
GIFFORD PINCHOT	769	124	637
MT BAKER SNOQUALMIE	319	26	363
OKANAGAN	146	74	137
OLYMPIC	238	32	376
WENATCHEE	303	79	262
TOTAL	1775	335	1775
TOTAL OWL FORESTS	5800	1186	5800
<u>Oregon Non-owl Forests</u>			
FREMONT	321	166	324
MALHEUR	491	252	474
OCHOCO	258	130	299
UMATILLA	263	115	249
WALLOWA-WHITMAN	323	118	324
TOTAL	1656	781	1670
<u>Washington Non-Owl Forest</u>			
COLVILLE	244	122	230
TOTAL NON-OWL FORESTS	1900	903	1900
<u>REGIONAL TOTAL</u>	<u>7700</u>	<u>2089</u>	<u>7700</u>

¹ All figures represent Net Merchantable sawtimber, and are listed in million board feet.

² A straight mathematical proportion of 7.7 based on the average timber sale programs of fiscal years '86 to '88. These figures were derived in response to an earlier version of the amendment.

